



RUSH COUNTY SCHOOLS

Jim Jameson, Superintendent

Return to Traditional Lunch Benefit Eligibility for the 2022 - 2023 School Year

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The school's meals program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, school corporations across the country have been operating with the use of a federal waiver that allowed them to feed every child for free through the end of the 2021-22 school year. The use of this waiver is no longer available, therefore, corporations must return to the traditional eligibility requirements for free, reduced and paid meals. This means that for the School Year 2022-2023, Rush County School Corporation will process free and reduced-price meal benefit applications.

The Food Service Department does have the ability to directly certify students who receive SNAP, TANF, some Medicaid, and are certified as homeless, migrant, or are wards of the state (foster children). Households who are found to be directly certified will be notified in writing of the free or reduced priced meal status prior to the start of the school year and will not need to complete an application.

Households are encouraged to apply for free or reduced benefits before the start of the school year to avoid unpaid meal charges. Students who are not approved for free or reduced price meals benefits before the start of the school year will be classified as paid status and meal chargers may begin to accumulate starting the first day of school. Meal charges accrued before the approval of a meal benefit application will be the responsibility of the household.

You do NOT need to complete an application if:

- You receive notification that your child(ren) is directly certified.
- You know your household does not qualify for meal benefits. (Please have money in your child's account on the first day of school).

Meal Prices for the upcoming school year will be:

Breakfast - \$1.75

Lunch - \$2.50

Thank you,

Mr. Jim Jameson
Superintendent
Rush County Schools